



Vol. 66, No. 2



Concord, CA

February, 2018



**Diablo
Diggins**

Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society

Since 1950

“We Dig Rocks”

This newsletter is available by email - contact the editor

February 2018 President’s Message



Dues are due! Don't risk being dropped from the newsletter or having to pay a new initiation fee.

IMPORTANT Dates for 2018

Show meetings and BOD meetings are scheduled for the following dates. Feb. 4, March 4, No Meeting in May, June 3, July 8, August 12, Sept 9, Oct 7, Nov 11, Dec. 2. Mark your calendar now. Dates are subject to change, updates will appear in the newsletter.

Kelly Plumb, President

Diablo Diggins

Articles and photos are due the 19th of each month. Thank you.

CCM&GS 2018 Membership Dues Are Due !

See Page 11 for more information.



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METEORITES!

SEE THEM! TOUCH THEM! LEARN ALL ABOUT THEM!!!

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about meteorites from a well-known expert! Michael Santos, who had a booth at our show in November, will be here to talk about this fascinating topic.

Where are they from? Michael will have Martian and Lunar specimens!

How did they get here? Michael will have the answers!

What are they made of?

How old are they?

Enquiring Minds Want to Know!!!

It's possible that he'll bring a surprise special guest, his wife Charlotte, who was a star on "Little House On The Prairie".

Come and bring a friend. Everyone will love this show including rockhounds, astronomers, astrologists, Star Trek fans and even Star War Fans!



Donna Albrecht
Program Chair

**January 8, 2018
General Meeting
Centre Concord, CA**

Book, "Crafting a Business: Making Money Doing What You Love"

by Kathie Fitzgerald

Book, "Metalwork Jewelry: 35 Step-by-step Projects by Linda Peterson

Book, "Jewelry Upcycled!: Techniques and Projects for Reusing Metal, Plastic, Glass, Fiber, and Found Objects"

by Sherri Haab and Michelle Haab

Mary Jernigan, **Membership**, had the CFMS form for member insurance and dues. She will get the check to mail in with the form from Mary Hanjes at the General meeting.

Editor Debbie. Sorry her mom is doing poorly. Newsletter items due January 19th.

Historian, Debbie and Dave Kleesattle will be getting together to move club records into the storage unit.

VP Program, Donna Albrecht, reported that the January program would be about the geology of San Francisco and the February meeting will feature Meteors.

Field Trips, Chuck; see newsletter. He announced a brief summary of this year's field trips, out of Quartzite, Az. See handout and also, CFMS South is hosting a trip to Lavic Siding / Barstow, Ca. Feb. 17. For Agates and Jaspers. And finally, CFMS North's field trip chairman Jim Bartlett, Dick Pankey and I are working on a plan for a field trip to Davis Creek, Ca. Around mid-July to mid-Aug. For Obsidians of all shapes and hues. The plan is for CFMS to sponsor and CCM&GS to host and with Dick leading. We should have an announcement ready, after things calm down from Quartzite.

New Business. Budget.

Old Business. Triangles and bars were not purchased for the 2017 board. Approval of December BOD meeting minutes.

Meeting adjourned 6:30 pm

There were about 40 people present.

President Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

After the pledge there was a Safety Moment, drive safely in the rain.

Door prizes were awarded.

There were six guests announced by Joanne Caskey. Jackie Kanbeshiro (Next Door), Leslie and Ken Stain (Next Door), Joanne Miller (friend of Johanna Fenton), Tom Gallant and Noel Gallant.

President Kelly received an award for having the ugliest sweater at the December Holiday meeting. BD and Anniversary news was announced.

Bonnie Eichler announced a stain glass class by Betty Pankey and Dick Pankey has organized a class on identification of Petrified Wood. See newsletter for details.

Cheryl Morgan announced the items displayed for judging.

Chuck Olson announced that Quartzsite is in full swing. Lots of field trips hosted by Road Runners. CFMS south is hosting a trip to Lavic Siding, and planning of a trip to Davis Creek is in the works. All information on the back table, newsletter, or call him.

Net for the 2017 show was \$9,334. This is good and this is what pays our bills. The \$10 dues go to CFMS. Start getting involved with the show now.

Donna introduced the evening's speaker, John Karachewski. It was an informative talk about the geology of San Francisco. Presentation ended at 8:50 pm, questions followed.

After the program, snacks were enjoyed. Attendees were asked to leave starting at 9:15 pm.

The room was turned over to the Centre at 9:25 pm.

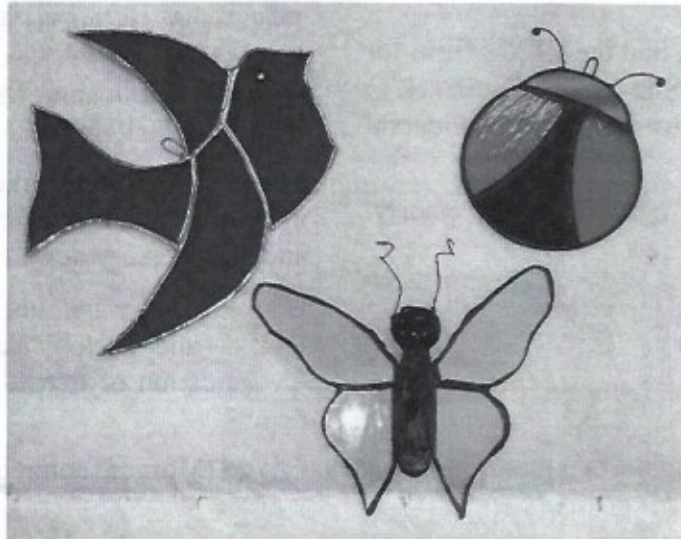
End.

Mary Hicks, Secretary

YOU + SHOW + NOW = YOU BEING A CLUB MEMBER

EDUCATION CORNER

REMINDER: The stained glass class taught by Betty Pankey originally scheduled for Saturday, February 3rd & Saturday, February 10th at the Hobby Lobby, 5849 Lone Tree Way, in Antioch has been placed on hold although there are spaces available for future classes. The limit is 6 students as well as a minimum of 4 students needed to attend. Betty will be providing initial supplies and tools. There will be no cost to club members in good standing, but please make sure you attend if you sign up. I can tell you from experience, this is a wonderful class! I learned a lot of valuable information from Betty so that I can continue making stained glass projects on my own. If this craft interests you even in the slightest, this is the class to take advantage of! Betty is an extremely valuable asset to our club. Please contact Betty if you are interested in taking any of her classes.



Petrified Wood Seminar

Palm, Dicote, Conifer! What are they? In our case they are types of petrified wood. At shows, at rock shops or in the field and you see an unusual rock, is it petrified wood? What kind of wood? This seminar will teach you the basics of petrified wood identification, characteristics used to identify petrified wood, and how to distinguish between the types of petrified wood. This seminar will be held on Saturday, April 21, 2018 at the Community Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Leland Rd., in Pittsburg, CA. This is the same place where we have hosted several NBFT meetings. This will be an approximately 6+ hour seminar starting at 9:30 AM and concluding at about 4:00 PM. Cost of the seminar is \$30 to be paid at signup to guarantee your spot. Included in the cost you will receive a lighted pocket microscope. Since our society subsidizes our classes you will receive a \$10 refund upon completion of the seminar. There is a limit of 10 attendees (we need a minimum of 5 participant). So don't delay in signing up.

The seminar is presented by renowned experts Keith Lindholm and Carol Lockhart. This is a hands on seminar with a lot of personal attention. Bring 2 or 3 specimens that you would like to identify. Polished slabs work the best. There will be a short break for lunch so bring snacks or a sack lunch (we do not have time to go out for lunch). Coffee and bottled water will be available.

To sign up and reserve your place at this great seminar contact Dick Pankey (Dickpankey@juno.com/925-726-5914) or Bonnie Eichler (bonniee1969@hotmail.com)

EDUCATION CORNER (continued)

The Lost Wax Casting Jewelry Class Tuition Reimbursement Scholarship

The Lost Wax Casting Jewelry class taught by Gary Casillas at the Mt Diablo Adult Education Pleasant Hill Center will begin its spring semester March 14 through May 23, 2018 and costs \$148 for 10 weeks. Registration can be done in person or online <http://register.asapconnected.com/courses.aspx?coursegroupid=5896> (then click on Basic Jewelry - Designed for the Hobbyist.) Online registration begins about 3-4 weeks prior to the class.

Members are not required to apply for the club's tuition reimbursement scholarship in order to take this class, but if you haven't been awarded the scholarship previously, there's no reason not to apply! The presentation requirement portion of the scholarship is minimal. The presentation does not have to be long – more like a 'show & tell' for a minute or two.

The scholarship is open to all members in good standing with the club. (The only exception being prior winners of this particular scholarship; they cannot re-apply.) This is an outstanding opportunity for our membership. The winner of the reimbursement scholarship will be selected at the March Board meeting. **Application submission deadline is February 28, 2018.** (*Submitting a scholarship application does not register you for the class.*) Send applications to the board at P0 Box 842, Concord, CA 94522 or submit to the Education Chair in person at the February general meeting.

Get a jump start on your presents this year or making components for your jewelry pieces. You can create your own designs or purchase wax patterns already made. (You can even alter pre-made wax patterns to suit your needs.) **If you have questions about the class, don't hesitate to ask.** It's a casual environment (we're not graded) and everybody helps each other when needed. It's a lot of fun; get a friend or two to take the class with you!

Bonnie Eichler
Education Chair



If you attend this class or participate in any way, will you take photographs and submit them to me for the "Brag Book"?

Thank You.

Debbie Blevins

OHB@Astound.net

**Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society Scholarship Application
Mt Diablo Adult Education – Basic Jewelry Designed For The Hobbyist
Spring Session: March 14 - May 23
(Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 9:30)
Pleasant Hill Education Center**

**Scholarship is for class tuition reimbursement only. The student is responsible for the cost of any supplies used & will decide which type of metal they want to use. Information will be provided at class on where metal can be purchased.*

Member Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Submission Deadline February 28, 2018. Send applications to the board at P0 Box 842, Concord, CA 94522 or submit to the Education Chair in person at a general meeting. Unsigned applications will not be considered.

Acknowledgment:

If chosen for this scholarship I agree to do a short 5-10 minute presentation for the club during a general meeting within 2 months of the completion of the class sharing what I have learned at the class. I agree to a minimum attendance of 70%. Members may only be awarded this scholarship once. This scholarship is a reimbursement that will be paid at the conclusion of the class, once presentation has been completed.

Signature of Acknowledgment

Date

Please write a paragraph telling us why you would like to be selected for the scholarship.



Rockhounding With Sally!

Somehow Sally knows about a day ahead, that we're leaving on a field trip. Kind of like dogs and earthquakes..... And from then on, it's a nonstop temper tantrum, until she's finally riding in the truck.

Well, I was on a ladder, getting the camper ready for Quartzite while Sally was screaming, "Are we there yet?"

When I shoved a battery this way, the ladder I was clinging to went that-a-way! And for just a moment, I was floating in air, while hanging on to a 12 volt battery!

Not to worry. I'm not sure about the ladder, but the battery will never be the same. That really threw off our Quartzite trip. All that's left is climbing into warm bathtubs.

Here's Sally coming from her's.



Now I don't like steering this space away from Field Trips, but lately I've been thinking about adding a safety tip.

My first thought was, "Don't eat anything from a bloated can!"

"You can drink liquor from a bottle, or an old tomato can. Liquor from a bottle won't kill you, but an old tomato can!" And be sure to have someone smarter than yourself, hold the ladder.



LEAVE NO TRACE !

Now about Field Trips;

February 17, 2018

Lavic Siding

Barstow, CA

CFMS South

For Agate and Jasper

Contact Dean: the agatehunter@verizon.net (909)489-4899 or Roy Isaac: 1bionidj@gmail.com (818) 633-3350

February 18, 2018

Afton Canyon, Ca.

For Fluorite, Agate, Jasper

Mining Supplies and Rock Shop

9565 C Ave. Suite K

Hesperia, Ca. 9234

For Calcite, Quartz and Barite crystals.

This is a rock shop that sponsors monthly field trips,

lead by Justen Zzyzy. Contact Cyndy Mandell at cyndymandell@me.com, (760) 244-9642.

It might be worth putting the last two field trips together.

CFMS field trip Chairman Jim Barton, our own Dick Pankey and I, are working on a summer field trip to Davis Creek, for all kinds of Obsidian. This is dry camping on a beautiful meadow, surrounded by virgin forests, with a live stream running past.

The material for collection is abundant.

And you'll feel right at home, around the campfire, with the group of Rockhounds that this trip attracts.

So if you've only got one trip in you, for this year, this might be your best bet.

Let me know if you'd like more information on any of this and if you know of anything I'm missing. As long as I'm within a range of a cellular signal, I'm here, or there, to share any information I have.

Olson86@yahoo.com or (925) 890-7116

Olson 86

All American Club Award (Brag Book)

I am excited to report that I have accepted the challenge of assembling 'The All American Brag Book' for the Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society. To explain, I'd like to provide you with some of the information given to me from Dick Pankey immediately following:

Federation Director's Report

By Dick Pankey, Federation Director

The California Federation of Mineralogical Societies has many programs that recognize the contributions and achievements of the societies and their members. One very important program is the All American Club Award. The All American Club Award was established to encourage and help the societies document their activities. The All American Club Award is meant to:

- *Encourage local club members to share their expertise and enthusiasm for the hobby within their respective regions.*
- *Provide a model for organizing an annual historical account for the posterity of each club.*
- *Offer an opportunity for national recognition of exceptional clubs.*

This is not a competition of one club against others. This is an Evaluation of Quality based on a standard of excellence. Now is the time to begin preparations to enter this year's All American Club Award. The award program is based upon our societies 2018 activities. It is easy to participate in this program; all that is required is to prepare a scrapbook (a Brag Book if you will) of what we do in a given year following some rules and a guideline.

Thank you Dick.

In addition to this fun hobby of scrap booking, it will also be involving our club and supporting the California Federation of Mineralogical Society and their contest. The crucial part of this is that I cannot do it alone and am hoping that I could enlist help from the members for content. (In my humble opinion, your part will also be fun.) If you would write articles and submit photographs to me this will make the brag book colorful and interesting. I will be so grateful. It's my understanding that it has been several years since we last participated and I'm excited to enter this year's activities attended by YOU, the CCM&GS membership. Bring your camera wherever you go. It's easy because you probably have a camera on your telephone.

Participation pieces include articles and photos of rock shop visits, tumbling rocks (before and after photos), club sponsored meetings, other rock related meetings, rock/mineral events, bead shows, our club show for 2018, any other club shows, talks, demonstrations, classes you taught and/or attended, programs in which you participated, letters you wrote to legislators (include copies), government meetings you attended, newsletter articles you wrote for the Diablo Diggins or other club papers, field trips you attended and any other activities promoting our hobby.

You can find more information at: http://www.cfmsinc.org/forms10/contest_forms.htm

Even though it is not a competition of one club against another, let's try to win anyway. No article or photo is too small or insignificant. If you don't know if your submission is an eligible item, send it anyway and I'll find out. Please email to me at ohb@astound.net. If you need to mail them, my address is 1074 Kipling Ct., Concord, CA 94518.

Debbie Blevins
Member

From the Athenaeum (fancy pants word for library)

The CCMGS library has added a few choice resources available for members to check out and enjoy. From 'The Great Courses' comes a dvd set of 36, half-hour illustrated lectures on the geology of North America's National Parks. Just the course guide is nearly 350 pages. Don't be intimidated by the scope; the videos are both entertaining and informative.

Also new to the library are:

Crafting a Business (book)
Jewelry Architect (book & dvd)
Wire Style 2 (book & dvd)
Metalwork Jewelry (book)
Jewelry Upcycled (book)
Creating Elemental Jewelry (book)

We also received a donation of 2 geo textbooks, Geology: Our Changing Earth, and Earth: An Introduction to Physical Geology.

Call or email your librarian, Paul Black, for a complete list of our books and videos. And if you want something special added to the library let me know. It might be within the club's budget.

Paul Black, Librarian

Membership Dues Are Due

Membership dues to CCM&GS are due for the 2018 year.

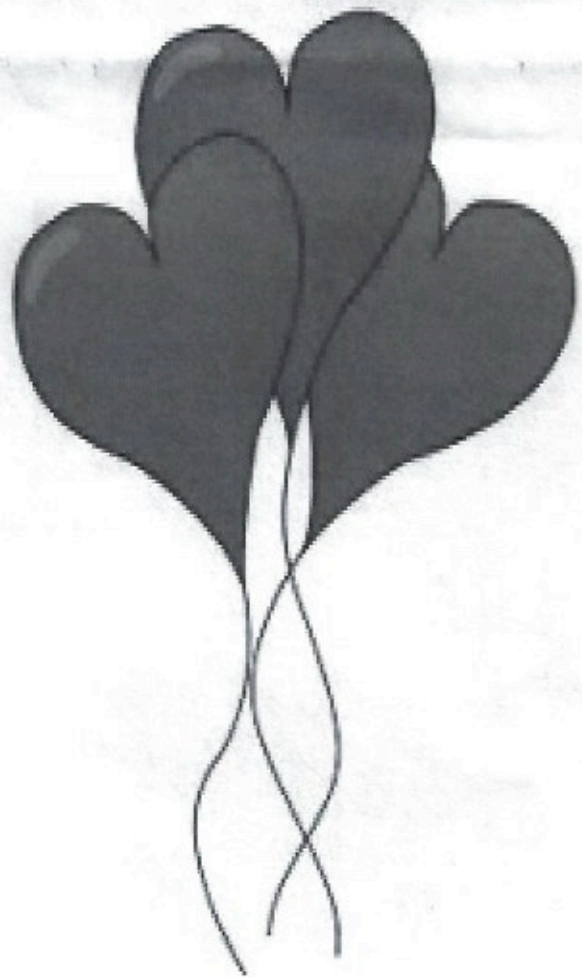
Don't miss out on the Diggins' Newsletter, upcoming fieldtrips, classes or other interesting events!

Annual membership dues are \$10, payable to CCM&GS.

Contra Costa Mineral & Gem Society
P.O. Box 842,
Concord, CA 94522-0842

Stay Connected-
Mary Jernigan- CCM&GS Membership

m10jernigan@yahoo.com
(925) 852-1133



February Refreshments

Thank you to club members who bring snacks to our general meetings each month.

If you are not able to attend the next meeting and your name is listed below, will you please contact another member and trade "snack responsibility" places with them?

Shannon & Richard Merrill
 Mario Mihalik
 Rana Miller-Owen
 Naomi & Cheryl Morgan
 Bruce Newton Jr.
 Sharon Neuhauser
 Therese Clark & Harry Nichandros
 Karen Oliver
 Chuck Olson
 Betty & Dick Pankey
 Renard Perucho
 Kelly Plumb
 Georgia & Roger Reynolds
 Bob Rigor
 Alan Robbins

Mary Jerningan
 Membership

**Happy Birthday**

to the following members
 who have birthdays this month:

Bob Rigor	2/3
Taylor Thompson	2/10
Cheri Elliott	2/19
Donna Albrecht	2/26

Mary Jernigan, Membership

*If you're going, or have
 already gone, to Quartzsite,
 Lead Mountain, Afton
 Canyon or Lavic Siding,
 will you please take/submit
 pictures for the Brag Book?
 Thank you.*

*Debbie Blevins
 ohb@astound.net*

Last Month's General Meeting Program



Above and Right:

John Karachewski, PhD. Geologist and photographer provided a captivating program on the hidden geological treasures along San Francisco's city streets and surrounding areas. John encouraged us to experience a walking tour to explore two major geologic fault zones, Ice Age sand dunes, serpentine at the Presidio and polished chert, evidence of plate tectonic movement.



Photos submitted by Mary Jernigan

Since the show in Tucson and Quartzsite, Arizona is still in full swing, I was asked to put this information in this month's newsletter in case you'd like to attend this annual show. You still have time.

HAVE YOUR 2018 TUCSON EZ-GUIDE MAILED TO YOU BEFORE THE SHOWS BEGIN! IT'S HOT OFF THE PRESS!

The 2018 Tucson Gem, Mineral & Fossil Showcase begins in less than three weeks — January 26! Xpo Press publishes the indispensable, full-color, 200-page guide that helps tens of thousands navigate the massive 44-show extravaganza. Be sure to pre-order "Tucson's Most Popular Show Guide" for planning your trip and familiarizing yourself with the city and the shows. Filled with interesting articles and important information about each show—dates and hours, complete vendor lists, floorplans and direction maps—you'll want to receive your **2018 Tucson EZ-Guide** before you arrive at the shows.

[Click here to buy your copy of the 2018 Tucson EZ-Guide](#)
It's only \$16.99, and we'll mail it to you first-class.



Xpo Press Quick Links

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and all major gem shows in Europe and Asia

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CONTRA COSTA MNERAL & GEM SOCIETY

P O Box 842, Concord, Ca 94522

General Meeting: Second Monday of the month at 7:30pm Centre Concord, 4298 Clayton Rd., Concord, CA
 (Clayton Fair Shopping Center, about .2 miles northwest on Clayton Rd. from Ygnacio Valley Road) Cross
 Street Balhan Drive, next to Clayton Valley Bowl, free parking

Membership Fees: Initiation \$5; Regular Member \$10, Junior \$1

VISITORS ARE WELCOME! BRING A FRIEND!

Board and Committee Members 2018

Please do not publish this list, Editor

President**Kelly Plumb**

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olson86@yahoo.com**Secretary****Mary Hicks**

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mrhanjes@gmail.com**Federation Director****Dick Pankey**

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(925)837-3287

February 2018

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Show & BOD Meetings						
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	General Meeting		Happy Valentines Day			Lavie Siding F/T
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Afton Canyon F/T	Newsletter Articles Due					
25	26	27	28			

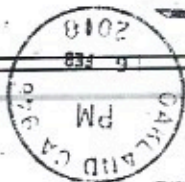
94521\$1410 CO21

First Class
Member of American and California
Federation of Mineralogical Societies

Don and Margaret Henrich
4767 Laura Drive
Concord, CA 94521



Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society
PO Box 842, Concord, CA 94522-0842



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Diablo Diggins

Newsletter of the Contra Costa
Mineral and Gem Society

Editor: Debbie Blevins

Send reports/articles/pictures to

ohb@astound.net

The Contra Costa Mineral and Gem Society was formed in 1950 to encourage the study of mineralogy, lapidary arts and field collections.

Members meet the second Monday of each month (third Monday in June) at Centre Concord, 5298 Clayton Road, Concord, CA 94521 (Clayton Fair Shopping Center between Ygnacio Valley Road and Balham Drive next to Clayton Valley Bowl.)

Visitors are welcome! Bring a friend!